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Our first care is your health care

ARIZONA HEALTH CARE COST CONTAINMENT SYSTEM

DATE: December 17, 2003

TO: Current AHCCCS Fee For Service Electronic Claims Submitters

FROM: Kathy Byrne, Assistant Director Division of Fee For Service Management

SUBJECT: HIPAA Transaction and Code Sets Testing and Contingency Planning

The purpose of this memorandum is to update you on the status of the Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System (AHCCCS) Fee For Service program's HIPAA-readiness and to reiterate the steps you need to take to comply with the HIPAA implementation requirements.

The AHCCCS Fee for Service program is currently ready to accept and process 837 production transmissions from all trading partners who have completed required testing and are 'certified' for production submissions. The AHCCCS Fee for Service program is also currently ready to conduct 837 transmissions testing with all remaining trading partners.

If you have not yet completed testing and certification for production submissions of the 837 to the AHCCCS program, you must do the following to ensure your electronic transactions are not rejected:

1. Submit a contingency election to per the attached specifications (Attachment A), on or before Monday, January 12th, 2004 and,
2. Initiate and complete 837 testing with AHCCCS per the attached specifications (Attachment B), prior to Monday, March 1st, 2004.

The AHCCCS Fee for Service program will no longer support file transmissions of the current NSF formats after Sunday, February 29th, 2004.

We encourage you to escalate and/or initiate your testing activities as soon as possible. Using Electronic Data Interchange (EDI) claims transactions (ASC X12 837) is an efficient way to submit claims, and HIPAA compliance is mandated for covered electronic formats. The sooner you successfully complete testing, the more likely your electronic claim submissions will be successful in the production environment, within required timeframes.

If you have any questions or comments please contact us via our HIPAA email address at AHCCCSHIPAAWorkgroup@ahcccs.state.az.us.